

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims by replacing the original claims with the following listing of claims.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for processing code comprising: at least one electronic device component for intercepting, examining and controlling code that is being communicated as a code stream on a communications channel, said electronic device component being provided with a protocol parser capable of discriminating among different protocols implemented on top of the transport layer; and, a proscribed code scanner; whereby said protocol parser intercepts instant messaging or peer-to-peer code on a communications channel and transmits said code for review by said proscribed code scanner, said protocol parser being provided to parse protocols on top of the transport layer; wherein said apparatus is configurable to process multiple code streams created when more than one communications channel is opened;

the apparatus including at least one kernel module that is linked to a number of path names and remains operable, and wherein said kernel is configured to operate to intercept code streams when an application that the kernel module is linked to is opened, wherein said application calls the kernel to insert a kernel module in the code stream, and wherein said kernel module intercepts code passing in the stream;

wherein the kernel module is configured to intercept at least code comprising instant messaging, wherein said interception is based on one or more of code based or port based interception.

Claim 2. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 1 further comprising a translation means whereby said translation means translates said code to authorized program parameters.

Claim 3. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 1 further comprising a protocol scanner, whereby said protocol parser transmits said instant messaging or peer-to-peer code to said proscribed code scanner through said protocol scanner.

Claim 4. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 1 whereby said proscribed code scanner further comprises a scanning means and an indicator means.

Claim 5. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 1 further comprising a certification means.

Claim 6. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 4 whereby said indicator means provides an indication of the presence of proscribed code after scanning said intercepted code.

Claim 7. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 1, whereby said proscribed code scanner comprises a malicious code scanner.

Claim 8. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 1, wherein said protocol parser further

comprises a configuration means for configuring interception parameters.

Claim 9. (Currently amended) An apparatus for processing code comprising: at least one electronic device component for intercepting, examining and controlling code that is being communicated as a code stream on a communications channel, said electronic device component being provided with a protocol parser capable of discriminating among different protocols implemented on top of the transport layer; and, a proscribed code scanner; whereby said protocol parser intercepts short messaging code from said code stream on a communications channel and transmits said code for review by said proscribed code scanner and said protocol parser being provided to parse protocols on top of the transport layer;

the apparatus including at least one kernel module that is linked to a number of path names and remains operable, and wherein said kernel is configured to operate to intercept code streams when an application that the kernel module is linked to is opened, wherein said application calls the kernel to insert a kernel module in the code stream, and wherein said kernel module intercepts code passing in the stream;

wherein the kernel module is configured to intercept at least code comprising instant messaging, wherein said interception is based on one or more of code based or port based.

Claim 10. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 3, wherein said protocol scanner further comprises a configuration means for configuring interception parameters.

Claim 11. (Previously presented) An apparatus for processing code comprising: at least

one electronic device component for intercepting, examining and controlling code that is being communicated as a code stream on a communications channel, said electronic device component being provided with a protocol parser capable of discriminating among different protocols implemented on top of the transport layer; a protocol scanner; and, a proscribed code scanner comprised of a scanning means and an indicator means; whereby said protocol parser intercepts instant messaging or peer-to-peer code on a communications channel and transmits said code to said proscribed code scanner through said protocol scanner, said protocol parser being provided to parse protocols on top of the transport layer.

Claim 12. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 1, further comprising a decryption component, whereby said protocol parser intercepts said instant messaging or peer-to-peer code being transmitted through said communications channel and transfers said code to said decryption component for decryption and scanning by said proscribed code scanner.

Claim 13. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 12, further comprising an SSL decryption component.

Claim 14. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 12, further comprising an S/MIME decryption component.

Claim 15. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 1, further comprising an encryptor,

wherein said code, after being processed by said proscribed code scanner, may be encrypted by said encryptor.

Claim 16. (Original) An apparatus as in claim 12, further comprising an encryptor, wherein said code, after being processed by said proscribed code scanner, may be encrypted by said encryptor.

Claim 17. (Previously presented) An apparatus for processing code comprising: at least one electronic device component for intercepting, examining and controlling code that is being communicated as a code stream on a communications channel, said electronic device component being provided with a protocol parser capable of discriminating among different protocols implemented on top of the transport layer; a proscribed code scanner; a protocol scanner; a decryption component, whereby said protocol parser intercepts instant messaging or peer-to-peer code on a communications channel and transfers said code to said decryption component for decryption and scanning by said proscribed code scanner, said protocol parser being provided to parse protocols on top of the transport layer.

Claim 18. (Currently amended) A method for processing code comprising: providing a computing component with storage media, and configuring the storage media with software for implementing the following: intercepting instant messaging or peer-to-peer code that is being communicated as a code stream on a communications channel; parsing said code; and, scanning said code for the presence of proscribed code; and, providing an

indicator for the presence of said proscribed code, wherein parsing said code comprises discriminating among different protocols.

Claim 19. (Original) A method as in claim 18 further comprising translating said code to authorized program parameters.

Claim 20. (Original) A method as in claim 18 further comprising said code.

Claim 21. (Original) A method as in claim 18 further comprising returning said code to said communication channel if said indicator is negative.

Claim 22. (Original) A method as in claim 18 further comprising transferring said code to another communication channel.

Claim 23. (Original) A method as in claim 18 further comprising further indicating the presence of said proscribed code if said indicator is positive.

Claim 24. (Original) A method as in claim 18 wherein intercepting said code further comprises intercepting the code according to configured parameters.

Claim 25. (Original) A method as in claim 18 wherein scanning said code for the presence of proscribed code further comprises scanning said code for the presence of malicious code.

Claim 26. (Original) A method as in claim 18 further comprising decrypting said code.

Claim 27. (Original) A method as in claim 26 further comprising reencrypting said code if said indicator is negative.

Claim 28. (Original) A method as in claim 18 further comprising encrypting said code.

Claim 29. (Original) A method as in claim 26 wherein decrypting said code is preceded by intercepting said code prior to decrypting said code.

Claim 30. (Original) A method as in claim 26 wherein said code is secured through SSL encryption.

Claim 31. (Original) A method as in claim 26 wherein said code is secured through S/MIME encryption.

Claim 32. (Original) A method as in claim 26 further comprising the step of: reencrypting said code if said indicator is negative.

Claim 33. (Original) A method as in claim 26 further comprising providing a separate system inserted in said communications channel, and with at least one of said steps of intercepting said code; decrypting said code; scanning said code for the presence of

proscribed code, and providing an indicator for the presence of said proscribed code, occurring on said separate machine.

Claim 34. (Currently amended) A method for processing code comprising: providing a computing component with storage media, and configuring the storage media with software for implementing the following: intercepting instant messaging or peer-to-peer code that is being communicated as a code stream on a communications channel; parsing said code; scanning said code for the presence of proscribed code; and, providing an indicator for the presence of said proscribed code, wherein parsing said code comprises discriminating among different protocols.

Claim 35. (Currently amended) A method for processing code comprising: providing a computing component with storage media, and configuring the storage media with software for implementing the following: intercepting instant messaging or peer-to-peer code that is being communicated as a code stream on a communications channel; decrypting said code; parsing said code; scanning said code for the presence of proscribed code; and, providing an indicator for the presence of said proscribed code, wherein parsing said code comprises discriminating among different protocols.

Claim 36. (Currently amended) A method for processing code comprising: providing a computing component with storage media, and configuring the storage media with software for implementing the following: intercepting instant messaging or peer-to-peer code that is being communicated as a code stream on a communications channel; parsing

said code; scanning said code for the presence of proscribed code; and, providing an indicator for the presence of said proscribed code, wherein parsing said code comprises discriminating among different protocols.

Claim 37. (Previously presented) The method as in claim 30, wherein parsing said code is accomplished with a parser, and wherein the method includes intercepting with said parser a request from one or the other of an original client and an original server for an SSL transfer, creating with said parser a new SSL server that communicates with said client and a new SSL client that communicated with said server, and intercepting with said SSL client and said SSL server communications that occur between said original client and said original server.